UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

CLONING AND EXPRESSION OF FIMBRIAL SUBUNIT GENE OF PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDIA TYPE 6:B, ISOLATED FROM CATTLE WITH HAEMORRHAGIC SEPTICAEMIA

ERNIE ZURAIDA BINTI ALI

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CLONING AND EXPRESSION OF FIMBRIAL SUBUNIT GENE OF PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDA TYPE 6:B, ISOLATED FROM CATTLE WITH HAEMORRHAGIC SEPTICAEMIA

By

ERNIE ZURAIDA BINTI ALI

Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science

June 2005
DEDICATED TO..............

My Father and Mother,

TUAN HJ. ALI ALIAS
PUAN HJH. SALNAH ALI

My Elder Sister,

ERNIE SUZANA ALI

My Sisters and Brothers,

NUR HAFIZAH ALI
SITI KHADIJAH ALI
MUHD. AMINUDDIN ANWAR ALI
MUHD FAIZ ALI

My Beloved Love,

MOHD AMRAN MOHD RADZI
CLONING AND EXPRESSION OF FIMBRIAL SUBUNIT GENE OF PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDA TYPE 6:B, ISOLATED FROM CATTLE WITH HAEMORRHAGIC SEPTICAEMIA

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ERNIE ZURAIDA BINTI ALI

June 2005

Chairman: Professor Mohd. Zamri Saad, PhD

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Haemorrhagic septicaemia (HS) is a common disease of cattle and buffaloes, particularly in Asia. In Malaysia, Pasteurella multocida 6:B is most commonly isolated from outbreaks of haemorrhagic septicaemia. Thus, many antigenic components of P. multocida have been studied such as the lipopolysaccharides (LPS), outer membrane proteins (OMP) and the capsule. However, the fimbriae, which is involved in the attachment to the cell surface of the host and usually correlated with virulence of the organism has not been studied. Thus, studies on fimbrial gene and protein may be essential in the production of vaccine against haemorrhagic septicaemia.

In this study, fimbriae gene of P. multocida type 6:B was amplified, cloned and subjected for sequencing and expression in Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Escherichia coli. All isolates produced a single product approximately at 450 bp. Analysis of the fimbrial subunit gene sequence of type 6:B strain was compared with those of type A:1 and A:3 strains of P. multocida. The sequence of strains A:3 and 6:B showed complete homology while the sequence of strains A:1 and 6:B showed
81.8% amino acid similarity. Although the *P. multocida* and other species shared that mean showed the conserved same mature fimbriae, both showed different signal peptides, even though they were within the same group/type.

*Pasteurella multocida* fimbrial subunit gene was cloned in the expression vectors, pUCpKS/SK and pCRT7-TOPO in order to construct a recombinant plasmid. In SDS-PAGE gel, it was seen that the recombinant *P. aeruginosa* cells failed to produce fimbriae using a specific surface fimbriae method. On Western blot analysis using anti-*P. aeruginosa* fimbrial antiserum, reaction was observed in both the wild type *P. aeruginosa* and the whole cells of recombinant *P. aeruginosa* cells. However, only the wild type *P. aeruginosa* showed cross-reaction when probed with anti-*P. multocida* fimbrial antiserum. This indicated that the wild type *P. aeruginosa* shared the same epitope with *P. multicoda* and that the fimbriae proteins of *P. multocida* was not expressed in *P. aeruginosa*.

In *E. coli* cells, the recombinant protein was expressed as a soluble protein but at a relatively low level despite optimization. In the Western blot analysis using anti-*P. multocida* fimbrial polyclonal antibody, the recombinant protein was identified as the protein band that have a molecular weight of approximately 18 kDa. However, it was uncertain whether the endogeneous fimbriae was not expressed or the protein was expressed but was not exported out of the cell. Thus, further analysis to identify the other candidate genes and to try with other suitable hosts are required.
Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

PENGKOLONAN DAN PENYATAAN GEN FIMBRIA DARI PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDA TIP 6:B, DIPENCILKAN DARIPADA LEMBU DENGAN HAWAR BERDARAH

Oleh

ERNIE ZURAIDA BINTI ALI

Jun 2005

Pengerusi: Profesor Mohd. Zamri Saad, PhD
Fakulti: Perubatan Veterinar


dari strain A:3 dan 6:B menunjukkan persamaan yang lengkap sementara jujukan dari strain A:1 dan 6:B menunjukkan 81.8 % persamaan asid amino. Walaupun *P. multocida* dan spesies yang lain berkongsi iaitu menunjukkan persamaan pada bahagian kematangan fimbria, kedua-duanya memperlihatkan perbezaan pada isyarat peptida, walaupun di dalam kumpulan yang sama.

*Pasteurella multocida* fimbria telah diklon dalam vektor penyataan pUCpKS/SK dan pCRT7®-TOPO bagi membina plasmid rekombinan. Di dalam SDS-PAGE, dapat di lihat bahawa sel rekombinan *P. aeruginosa* gagal untuk menghasilkan fimbria walaupun menggunakan kaedah permukaan fimbria yang spesifik. Analisis sap Western menggunakan antisera anti- fimbria *P. aeruginosa*, mendapati tindakbalas berlaku dengan *Pseudomonas* asal dan dengan keseluruhan rekombinan sel *P. aeruginosa*. Walaubagaimanapun, hanya *P. aeruginosa* asal menunjukkan tindakbalas silang apabila dititikkan atau diserapkan dengan antisera anti- fimbria *P. multocida*. Ini menunjukkan bahawa *P. aeruginosa* asal berkongsi epitop yang sama dengan *P. multocida* dan fimbria *P. multocida* tidak boleh diekspres di dalam *P. aeruginosa*.

Dalam sel *E. coli*, protin rekombinan telah dinyatakan sebagai protin larut tetapi pada aras agak rendah walaupun telah dioptimumkan. Dalam analisis sap Western menggunakan antibodi poliklon anti-*P. multocida* fimbria antisera, rekombinan protin telah dikenalpasti sebagai jaluran protin yang berat molekul lebih kurang 18 kDa. Walaubagaimanapun, ia tidak diketahui sama ada fimbria asal tidak diekspreskan atau gen tersebut diekspreskan tetapi tidak dapat dikeluarkan daripada
sel tersebut. Dengan demikian, analisis lanjutan diperlukan untuk mengenalpasti gen yang lain atau mencuba dengan vektor yang lain.
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I certify that an Examination Committee met on 9th June 2005 to conduct the final examination of Ernie Zuraida binti Ali on her Master of Science thesis entitled “Cloning and Expression of Fimbrial Subunit Gene of Pasteurella multocida Type 6:B, Isolated form Cattle with Haemorrhagic Septicaemia” in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work for quotation and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any degree at UPM or other institutions.

ERNIE ZURAIDA BTE ALI

Date: 18 August 2005
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEDICATION</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRACT</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRAK</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPROVAL</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECLARATION</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF TABLES</td>
<td>xvi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF FIGURES</td>
<td>xvii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF ABBREVIATION</td>
<td>xix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CHAPTER

1. **INTRODUCTION**  

2. **LITERATURE REVIEW**  
   2.1  Haemorrhagic septicaemia  
   2.2  *Pasteurella* Species  
      2.2.1  Morphological and Bacteriological Characteristic of *Pasteurella multocida*  
   2.3  Serological Typing  
      2.3.1  Capsular Typing  
      2.3.2  Somatic Typing  
   2.4  Ultrastructure of Gram-negative Bacteria  
      2.4.1  Peptidoglycan  
      2.4.2  Lipoprotein  
      2.4.3  Lipopolysaccharide  
      2.4.4  Outer Membrane Protein  
      2.4.5  Fimbriae  
   2.5  Virulent Factor of *P. multocida*  
      2.5.1  Lipopolysaccharide  
      2.5.2  Capsule  
      2.5.3  Outer Membrane Proteins (OMP)  
      2.5.4  Fimbriae  
   2.6  Cloning and Expression  
      2.6.1  Definition of Cloning  
      2.6.2  Definition of Expression  
   2.7  The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Expression Systems  
      2.7.1  *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* as a Host Strain  
      2.7.2  *Escherichia coli* as a Host Strain
AMPLIFICATION, CLONING AND SEQUENCING OF THE FIMBRIAL SUBUNIT GENE OF PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDA TYPE 6:B

3

1. Introduction
3.1
2. Materials and Methods
3.2
  2.1 Bacteria Culture
3.2.1
  2.2 DNA Extraction
3.2.2
  2.3 DNA Quantification and Purity
3.2.3
  2.4 Fimbrial Subunit Gene Amplification and Cloning
3.2.4
  2.5 Detection of PCR Products
3.2.5
  2.6 Purification of the PCR Products
3.2.6
  2.7 Vector
3.2.7
  2.8 TOPO Cloning Ligation Reaction
3.2.8
  2.9 TOP 10 One Shot Chemical Transformation
3.2.9
  2.10 Plasmid Extraction
3.2.10
  2.11 Analysis of Positive Clones by Restriction Endonuclease Analysis
3.2.11
  2.12 The Sequencing Reaction Mixture
3.2.12
  2.13 Sequence Analysis
3.2.13
  2.14 Fimbrial Sequence Collected from GenBank
3.2.14
  2.15 Hydrophilicity and Antigenicity of P. multocida
3.2.15

3. Results

3.1 Fimbrial Gene Amplification and Cloning into pCR® 2.1-TOPO TA Cloning vector
3.3.1
3.2 Sequence Analysis of Fimbrial Subunit Gene
3.3.2
3.3 Hydrophilicity and Antigenicity of the Fimbrial Protein
3.3.3

3.4 Discussion
3.10
3.11
3.12
3.21
3.25

CONSTRUCTION OF PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDA FIMBRIAL GENE VECTOR AND EXPRESSION IN PSEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA

4

1. Introduction
4.1
2. Materials and Methods
4.2
  2.1 Bacterial Strain
4.2.1
  2.2 Vectors
4.2.2
  2.3 Preparation of Pseudomonas aeruginosa Competent Cells
4.2.3
  2.4 Cloning of Pasteurella multocida fimbrial subunit gene into pUCpSK/KS
4.2.4
  2.5 Surface Fimbriae Preparation
4.2.5
  2.6 Detection of Recombinant Protein by Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE)
4.2.6

4.3 Results
4.10
4.4 Discussion
4.18
5 EXPRESSION OF *PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDA* FIMBRIAL SUBUNIT GENE IN *ESCHERICHIA COLI*  
5.1 Introduction 5.1  
5.2 Materials and Methods 5.2  
5.2.1 Bacterial Culture 5.2  
5.2.2 Fimbral Subunit Gene Amplification and Cloning 5.2  
5.2.3 Plasmid Extraction 5.3  
5.2.4 Analysis of Positive Clones by Restriction Endonuclease Analysis 5.3  
5.2.5 Sequencing of Recombinant Plasmid 5.4  
5.2.6 Transformation of Recombinant Plasmid in BL21(DE3) pLysS 5.4  
5.2.7 Pilot Expression 5.5  
5.2.8 Solubility Test 5.6  
5.2.9 Detection on Recombinant Protein by Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) 5.7  
5.2.10 Analysis of Expressed by Western Blot 5.7  
5.3 Results 5.9  
5.3.1 Amplification of Fimbral Gene and Cloning into pCRT7-TOPO Expression Vector 5.9  
5.3.2 Sequencing of the Recombinant Plasmid 5.9  
5.3.3 Pilot Expression of Recombinant Protein 5.9  
5.3.4 Solubility Test of Recombinant Protein 5.13  
5.3.5 Analysis of Expression Protein by Western Blot 5.13  
5.4 Discussion 5.18  

6 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION 6.1  
REFERENCES R.1  
APPENDICES A.1  
BIODATA OF THE AUTHOR B.1
## LIST OF TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1: Nucleotide sequences similarity and differences in <em>P. multocida</em> isolates.</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2: Comparison of amino acid sequences between <em>P. multocida</em> type A:1 and type 6:B.</td>
<td>3.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1:</td>
<td>Schematic diagram of molecular organisation of the typical cell wall of gram negative bacteria.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1:</td>
<td>Agarose gel electrophoresis of <em>P. multocida</em> genomic DNA amplification products using EZ1 and EZ2 primer combination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2:</td>
<td>Restriction endonuclease analysis (EcoRI) of the extracted plasmid of positive transformant clones.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3:</td>
<td>Complete sequence of fimbrial subunit gene of <em>P. multocida</em> nucleotide with deduced amino acid sequences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4:</td>
<td>Alignment of predicted amino acid sequences of fimbrial subunit gene from different isolates of <em>P. multocida</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5:</td>
<td>Alignment of predicted amino acid sequences of fimbrial subunit gene from different species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6:</td>
<td>Comparison of the hydrophilicity plots of the fimbrial gene from <em>P. multocida</em> type 6:B and type A:1 isolates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7:</td>
<td>Comparison of the antigenicity index of the fimbrial gene of <em>P. multocida</em> type 6:B and type A:1 isolates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1:</td>
<td><em>SacI</em> and <em>ApaI</em> digestion of pUCpSK and pCR® 2.1+insert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2:</td>
<td><em>SacI</em> and <em>ApaI</em> digestion of pUCpKS and pCR® 2.1+insert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3:</td>
<td>Restriction endonuclease analysis (<em>SacI</em> and <em>ApaI</em>) of the extracted plasmid of positive clone transformant colonies with fimbrial subunit gene.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4:</td>
<td>Restriction endonuclease analysis (<em>SacI</em> and <em>ApaI</em>) of the extracted plasmid of positive clone transformant colonies with fimbrial subunit gene.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5:</td>
<td>Construction of RFSK for production of <em>P. multocida</em> fimbriae in <em>P. aeruginosa</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6:</td>
<td>PCR screening of recombinant plasmids of fimbrial subunit gene from <em>P. multocida</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7:</td>
<td>SDS-PAGE analysis of recombinant protein containing fimbrial subunit gene.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.8: Western blot analysis of recombinant protein using anti-\textit{P. aeruginosa} fimbrial antisera.

4.9: Western blot analysis of recombinant protein using anti-\textit{P. multocida} fimbrial antisera.

5.1: Restriction endonuclease analysis (\textit{Bam}HI and \textit{Hind}III) of the extracted plasmid of positive clone transformant colonies with fimbrial subunit gene.

5.2: Chromas of the complete sequence of fimbrial gene of \textit{P. multocida} ligated with pCR\textsuperscript{®}T7.

5.3: SDS-PAGE analysis of recombinant protein containing fimbrial protein.

5.4: SDS-PAGE analysis of soluble recombinant protein containing fimbrial protein from supernatant samples.

5.5: SDS-PAGE analysis of insoluble recombinant protein containing fimbrial protein from cell lysate samples.

5.6: Western Blotting analysis of recombinant protein containing fimbrial protein which have been blotted with anti-\textit{P. multocida} fimbrial antisera.

5.7: Western Blotting analysis of soluble recombinant protein containing fimbrial protein from supernatant samples which have been blotted with anti-\textit{P. multocida} fimbrial antisera.

5.8: Western Blotting analysis of recombinant protein containing fimbrial protein which have been blotted with anti-whole cells \textit{E. coli} antisera.
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

%  percentage

°C  Celsius temperature (centigrade temperature)

µg  Microgram

µl  Microliter

APS  Ammonium persulfate

Bp  Basepairs

BSA  Bovine serum albumin
cfu  colony forming unit

DNA  Deoxyribonucleic acid
dNTP  Deoxyribonucleotide triphosphate

EDTA  Ethylene-diamine-tetraacetic acid

g  gram

H₂O  Water

i.e  In example

IPTG  Isopropyl-β-D-thiogalacosidase

Kb  Kilobase pair

kDa  Kilodalton

LB  Luria-bertani

L  liter

M  Molar

mg  milligram

MgCl₂  Magnesium chloride

ml  mililiter

mM  Milimolar
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OD</td>
<td>Optical density</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORF</td>
<td>Open reading frame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Na₂HPO₄</td>
<td>di-sodium hydrogen phosphate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaCl</td>
<td>Sodium chloride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaH₂PO₄</td>
<td>Sodium di-hydrogen phosphate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaOH</td>
<td>Sodium hydrogen peroxide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nm</td>
<td>nanometer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBS</td>
<td>Phosphate buffer saline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH</td>
<td>puissance hydrogen (Hydrogen-ion concentration)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pPMTB3</td>
<td>Recombinant plasmid (pCR².1+fimbrial gene of <em>P. multocida</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pRFSK</td>
<td>Recombinant plasmid (pUCpSK+fimbrial gene of <em>P. multocida</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ptfA</td>
<td>Fimbrial gene of <em>Pasteurella multocida</em> A:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFSKP</td>
<td>Recombinant protein (fimbrial protein of <em>P. multocida</em> was expressed in <em>P. aeruginosa</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSK</td>
<td>Control of recombinant protein (pUCpSK only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rpm</td>
<td>round per minute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDS-PAGE</td>
<td>Sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBE</td>
<td>Tris-Base-EDTA-buffer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBS</td>
<td>Tris-buffer saline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEN</td>
<td>Tris-EDTA-NaCl buffer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tris-HCl</td>
<td>Tris (hydroxymethyl) aminomethane hydrochloride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v/v</td>
<td>volume per volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w/v</td>
<td>weight per volume</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Haemorrhagic septicaemia (HS) is an economically important disease of cattle and buffaloes in South East Asia (Rishendra and Jaiswal, 1998). The disease was first reported in Malaysia as early as the 1880’s (FAO 1993) (Chandrasekaran, 1993 and De Alwis, 1999). The outbreaks of this disease are recorded regularly in many countries and account for heavily tool of cattle and buffaloes every year (Carter, 1974; Bain et al., 1982; Carter et al., 1987; Giridher et al., 1990). In 1957, Bain estimated that the annual loss due to HS in Asia alone exceeded 100,000 susceptible animals (Josephs, 1979). During 1990-1999, the losses due to HS were estimated at RM 2.25 million (De Alwis, 1999). In Malaysia, the ruminant production systems are gradually changing from subsistence to intensive operations (Jamaluddin, 1992). The disease causes serious losses due to death, condemnation losses and costs of vaccination and medication.

Haemorrhagic septicaemia can be caused by one of two serotypes of P. multocida designated 6:B and 6:E (Namioka-Carter system) or B2 and E2 (Carter- Heddleston system) (De Alwis, 1990). Pasteurella multocida is also associated with a wide range of diseases, including fowl cholera of poultry and wild fowl, atrophic rhinitis of swine, haemorrhagic septicaemia of cattle and buffaloes and snuffles in rabbit. This organism can also cause diseases in humans such as sinusitis and its infection normally involves animal contact (Ruffolo et al., 1997). Pasteurella multocida is a
Gram-negative, facultative anaerobe and non-sporogenous (Rimler and Rhoades, 1989).

Vaccination is the principal method of controlling HS in many countries (Carter, 1973; Bain et al., 1982; Carter et al., 1987; Giridhar et al., 1990). Vaccines commonly used in this country are the alum-precipitated vaccine (APV) and the oil adjuvant vaccine (OAV). The APV is recommended for the in-contact animals in the area of an outbreak while the OAV is used for prophylaxis and is the most potent of the available vaccines (Carter and De Alwis, 1989). Although considerable reduction in deaths has been achieved by immunisation with the currently available vaccines, problems of HS outbreaks and deaths remain. Some of the most common problems are the low coverage of vaccination, occasional breakdown in the immunity in areas covered by vaccination and vaccines in low dosage, composition, quality and efficacy (Dawkins et al., 1990). In order to overcome the problem, there is a need to improve the quality and effectiveness of the vaccines.

Several antigenic components of *P. multocida* have been investigated, which include the LPS (Rhoades and Rimler, 1991), LPS-protein complex (Tsuji and Matsumoto, 1988) and the outer membrane protein. The OMP of *P. multocida* have been extensively studied as potential vaccine candidates (Lutenberg et al., 1986; Rimler and Rhoades, 1989; Lu et al., 1991a, b; Manoha et al., 1994, Ruffolo and Adler, 1996) but the outcome was inconclusive (Zamirah., 2002).

Fimbriae have been observed in a few strains of *P. multocida*. Fimbriae can enhance colonisation and attachment to the host cell surface, and is usually correlated with
virulence (Heckels et al., 1989; Virji et al., 1993). Therefore, investigation on the role of fimbriae can be beneficial and may be essential for vaccine development as observed against ovine footroot and bovine keratoconjunctivitis (Adler et al., 1999).

To date, few studies had been carried out on the characterisation of P. multocida 6:B fimbriae. Therefore, the objectives of this study were:

1. to amplify, clone and sequence the fimbriae subunit gene of P. multocida serotype 6:B.
2. to express the fimbrial subunit gene of P. multocida 6:B in P. aeruginosa.
3. to express the fimbrial subunit gene of P. multocida 6:B in E. coli.
CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Haemorrhagic septicaemia

Haemorrhagic septicaemia is a disease that occurs in Southern Europe Africa, Near and Middle East countries and throughout South East Asia (Joseph, 1979; Bain et al., 1982; De Alwis 1999). Haemorrhagic septicaemia occurs in outbreaks during periods of environmental stress. During the intervening periods, the causative organism persists in the tonsil and nasopharyngeal regions and such animals serve as carriers of the disease (Mustafa et al., 1978; Hiramure and De Alwis et al., 1990).

The disease is most commonly observed in cattle and buffaloes, caused by two specific serotypes of the bacterium; Pasteurella multocida (Carter, 1973; Joseph, 1979; Bain et al., 1982; Townsend et al., 1996). Generally, the observed signs are elevated temperature, loss of appetite, nasal discharge, salivation and labored breathing with swelling in the submandibular region. It is an acute, fatal disease and one of the most economically important diseases of livestock (Dawkins et al., 1990).

Haemorrhagic septicaemia caused a great economic loss in Asia, where buffaloes were reported to be particularly susceptible (Bain et al., 1982; De Alwis 1999). In Malaysia, the mortality rate due to haemorrhagic septicaemia is higher in buffaloes than cattle (Joseph, 1979). It was found that poor husbandry practices and disease surveillance system cause the many outbreaks in this region (De Alwis, 1999).